

Amendment To The Specification:

Please amend the paragraph on page 13, lines 3-16, as follows:

Q1 Referring now to Figure 6, ~~the~~ many of the functions available to the individual user print product requestor 47a are detailed. As shown in the Figure, a security protocol is implemented 71 to identify the individual user and, if the user has not previously utilized the system 72, he or she will be invited to create an individual profile 73. This profile, which will store all user-indicative information necessary to produce any available business card or stationery product, is then stored on the server 36 in the database management system 74. As shown in Figure 7, such a profile 73 may include personal information such as the individual's name 75 and telephone number 76, and may also include, at the company's discretion, such information as a billing code 77 and/or supervisor name 78. It is noted that information such as the user's title 79 and address 80 are selected from drop-down menus 81, 82, thereby ensuring company control of authorized titles and address format, as will be better understood further herein. Finally, upon saving of the profile 73, a "last updated" date 83 is noted for communication to the company purchasing agent. In this manner, the company purchasing agent need only verify user input data upon change of that date.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, lines 9-15, as follows:

Q2 As shown in Figure 10, the local office or service center representative is provided with similar functionality for ordering 47b general stationery or business card products. Although the order placement process 93 and status review functions 94 are virtually identical to those made available to the individual user, and the representative may view the local office profile 95, it is

Q2 noted that the local office representative does not have the ability to modify the office profile. In this manner, print orders are not disrupted by miscommunication and/or disagreement among remote personnel.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, lines 1-8, as follows:

Q3 Upon approval of one of more orders, the processor is provided with the ability to process the orders 117, as detailed in Figure 16. As also detailed in Figure 16, the processor also always has the ability to maintain client data 118, such as price lists, and to maintain system functions 119, such as field lists. As shown in Figure 17, order processing 117 generally comprises the functions of batch processing 120, shipping 121 and billing 122. The processor is, of course, also given the ability to view the status of as of yet not approved orders 129-123, which is extremely useful to order raw materials according to statistical analysis indicating the number of orders that will materialize in the near future.

Please amend the paragraph on page 16, lines 9-21, as follows:

Q4 Batch processing 120, detailed in Figures 18 and 19, allows the processor to sort out the orders into batches, each of which may be assigned a unique identifier for "work order" purposes 123, and to assign the sorted orders into appropriate batches 124, the assignment being recorded in a "batch element" table 125 as shown in Figure 5. The assignment to batches will generally be based upon product style, paper stock requirements and ink color requirements, but also may consider such factors as shipping address. Although the process is presently a manual function, it is anticipated that the entire batching process could be implemented according to a rule-based

Q4 system. This system would also ensure maximized profit without sacrifice to customer satisfaction by capping the length of time an order may be approved prior to printing while generally attempting to avoid unnecessary print runs. Finally, it is noted that the processor may view the approved orders 130, modify the orders 127a, and remove the orders 127b. The processor also preferably has access to the user profiles 126 as well as the orders themselves 127 during a manual batching, 128 or an intervention to an automated batching, in order that any necessary correction can be made at any time prior to actual printing.
